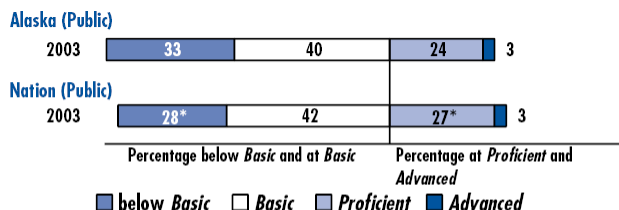


The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assesses reading in three contexts described in the NAEP framework: reading for literary experience, to gain information, and to perform a task. The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500.

Overall Reading Results for Alaska

- In 2003, the average scale score for eighth-grade students in Alaska was 256.
- Alaska's average score (256) in 2003 was lower¹ than that of the nation's public schools (261).
- Of the 53 states and jurisdictions² that participated in the 2003 eighth-grade assessment, students' average scale scores in Alaska were higher than those in 5 jurisdictions, not significantly different from those in 11 jurisdictions, and lower than those in 36 jurisdictions.
- The percentage of students in Alaska who performed at or above the NAEP *Proficient* level was 27 percent in 2003. The percentage of students in Alaska who performed at or above the *Basic* level was 67 percent.

Student Percentage at NAEP Achievement Levels



NOTE: The NAEP reading scale ranges from 0 to 500, with the achievement levels corresponding to the following points: Below *Basic*, 242 or lower; *Basic*, 243-280; *Proficient*, 281-322; *Advanced*, 323 or above.

Performance of NAEP Reporting Groups in Alaska

Reporting groups	Percentage of students	Average Score	Percentage of students at			
			Below <i>Basic</i>	<i>Basic</i>	<i>Proficient</i>	<i>Advanced</i>
Male	51	250 ↓	39 ↑	39	20	2
Female	49	263 ↓	28 ↑	41	28 ↓	4
White	58 ↓	268 ↓	21 ↑	42	32	4
Black	4 ↓	249	40	47	12	1
Hispanic	4 ↓	246	44	39	17	#
Asian/Pacific Islander	6 ↑	253 ↓	36 ↑	41	22 ↓	1
American Indian/Alaska Native	26 ↑	235 ↓	56 ↑	33 ↓	11 ↓	#
Free/reduced-price school lunch						
Eligible	25 ↓	239 ↓	51 ↑	36	12	#
Not eligible	65 ↑	263 ↓	27 ↑	41	29 ↓	3

Average Score Gaps Between Selected Groups

- In 2003, male students in Alaska had an average score that was lower than that of female students (13 points). This performance gap was not significantly different from that of the Nation (11 points).
- In 2003, White students had an average score that was higher than that of Black students (19 points). This performance gap was narrower than that of the Nation (27 points).
- In 2003, White students had an average score that was higher than that of Hispanic students (21 points). This performance gap was not significantly different from that of the Nation (27 points).
- In 2003, students who were not eligible for free/reduced-price school lunch had an average score that was higher than that of students who were eligible (24 points). This performance gap was not significantly different from that of the Nation (25 points).

Reading Scale Scores at Selected Percentiles

Scale Score Distribution			
	25 th Percentile	50 th Percentile	75 th Percentile
Alaska	232 ↓	260 ↓	283 ↓
Nation (Public)	240	264	286

An examination of scores at different percentiles on the 0–500 NAEP reading scale at each grade indicates how well students at lower, middle, and higher levels of the distribution performed. For example, the data above show that 75 percent of students in public schools nationally scored below 286, and 75 percent of students in Alaska scored below 283.

The estimate rounds to zero.

--- Reporting standards not met; sample size insufficient to permit a reliable estimate.

* Significantly different from Alaska.

↑ Significantly higher than, ↓ lower than appropriate subgroup in the nation (public).

¹ Comparisons (higher/lower/not different) are based on statistical tests. The .05 level was used for testing statistical significance. Performance comparisons may be affected by differences in exclusion rates for students with disabilities and limited-English-proficient students in the NAEP samples and changes in sample sizes. NAEP sample sizes have increased since 2002 compared to previous years, resulting in smaller detectable differences than in previous assessments.

² "Jurisdictions" includes participating states and other jurisdictions (such as the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Dependents Schools). NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding, and because the "Information not available" category for Free/reduced-price lunch is not displayed. Statistical comparisons are calculated on the basis of unrounded scale scores or percentages.

Visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/states/> for additional results and detailed information.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2003 Reading Assessment.